

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please rewrite paragraphs [0015], [0027] and [0029] as follows:

[0015] It is also possible to use copolymers of ethylene and an  $\alpha$ -olefin with 4-10 carbon atoms (1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 1-heptene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 1-octene).

[0027] It has been found that the thermal ~~thermal~~ shock to which the film is subjected provides improved transpirability during the successive stretching operations.

[0029] After the process of stabilization ~~sterilization~~, the film 11 is subjected to transverse and/or longitudinal stretching. For such purpose, the method employs appropriate means 6 adapted to carry out the transverse stretching and appropriate means 8 adapted to carry out the longitudinal stretching. In the illustrated example, the film 11 is subjected first to a transverse stretching and then to a longitudinal stretching. Naturally these stretchings may be reversed. Preferably between the transverse stretching means 6 and the longitudinal stretching means 8 there are provided tendering ~~tentering~~ means 7 for eliminating the folds created by the first process of stretching. Normally, the ratio of longitudinal stretching varies between 1:1.5 and 1:2.5. Also in this manner, the ratio of longitudinal stretching varies, usually, between 1:1.5 and 1:2.5. However, if required, the ratio of stretching may be up to 1:4. At the end of the stretching, the film 11 may undergo further working steps or be wound up by an appropriate winding machine 9.